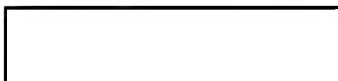


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C O N T E N T S

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2. USSR - Communist China: Soviet tactics in dispute becoming more aggressive, but Moscow still moving cautiously. (Page 3)

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5. Notes: [] Iraq; Congo (Kinshasa). (Page 6)

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USSR - Communist China: Soviet tactics in the dispute with China have become more aggressive, but the USSR is still moving with relative caution.

Soviet propaganda in recent weeks has become sharply critical of the Chinese "cultural revolution" and less disposed to pull its punches. Moscow not only has attacked the anti-Soviet character of Chinese behavior, but also has ridiculed and reviled Chinese domestic policy.

China's excesses have made it possible for the USSR to hit out at the Chinese without provoking adverse reactions from other Communist parties, which normally resent the USSR's critical judgments on the internal affairs of Communist states. In fact, many of the parties have recently joined the Soviet party in castigating the Chinese.

Moscow is almost certainly sounding out other Communist states on a common approach to the Chinese question. Brezhnev's recent visit to Hungary, Yugoslavia, and Bulgaria seems to have been largely for this purpose. However, the USSR senses the danger of appearing to dragoon other countries into supporting its anti-Chinese drive. Izvestia on 27 September, in commenting on Brezhnev's trip, made a point of denying any Soviet intention to dominate other countries' affairs.

Although Moscow is taking a more aggressive line toward the Chinese, there are signs that the Soviet leadership is still puzzled by the course of events in China.

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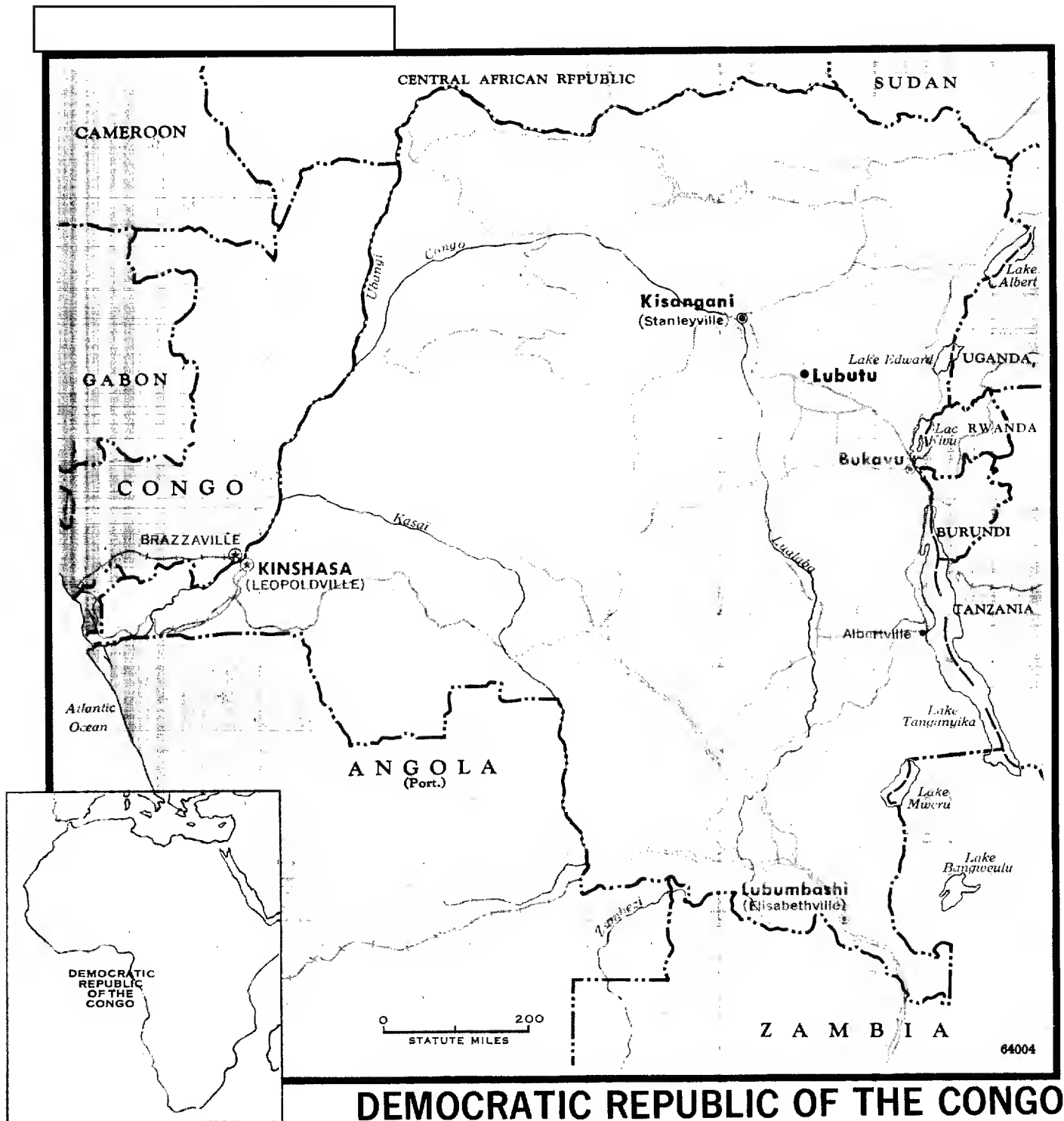
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NOTES

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Iraq: Relations between President Arif and Prime Minister Naji Talib are strained, and a cabinet reshuffle may be in the offing. A primary issue is Talib's insistence that Abd al-Razzaq, leader of last summer's abortive pro-Nasir coup, be released from custody, while Arif favors a public trial. Arif probably also blames Talib for a deterioration of relations with the Kurds, following last summer's tentative agreement.

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Congo (Kinshasa): Katangan mutineers fleeing from Kisangani apparently have reached Lubutu. Their intentions are not clear, but they reportedly are interested mainly in returning to their villages in Katanga. The mercenary commander in the Lubutu region apparently intends to try to arrange their safe passage, but he may run into opposition from President Mobutu, who has consistently opposed the Katangans' southward movement as a unit.

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